

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the pending claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A document management system for limiting user access to a registered document, comprising:

a first storage means for registering a document to be accessed; and

a second storage means for registering access controlling information including a specific character string and identification data,

wherein said identification ~~access controlling information including at least specific~~ data is added to said a document ~~to be registered and said document to be registered is~~ registered, ~~when if~~ if said document ~~to be registered~~ includes said specific data character string, and

access to said document is limited in accordance with contents of ~~the added~~ said access controlling information, when the access to said document is thereafter requested, if said document contains said added identification data.

2. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information further includes ~~not only said specific data but~~ information indicating how the access to said document is limited and, when the access to said document is requested, the access it is defined by referring to said ~~information,~~ information indicating how the access is limited.

3. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein it is defined whether or not said ~~the document to be registered~~ includes said specific data character string at any one of a time when said document is registered, a time when said access controlling information is registered, ~~time when said access controlling information is registered,~~ and a time when the access to said document is ~~request~~ requested.

4. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information further includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.

5. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information further includes a valid term ~~in~~ during which the access is limited.
6. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, ~~includes~~ including ID information for identifying ~~specifying~~ said record, and said ~~record~~ ID information is added to the document ~~by~~ for relating said ~~ID~~ access controlling information to the document.
7. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 5, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, ~~includes~~ including ID information for identifying ~~specifying~~ said record, and said ~~record~~ ID information is added to the document ~~by~~ for relating said ~~ID~~ access controlling information to the document.
8. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 4, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, ~~includes~~ including ID information for identifying ~~specifying~~ said record, and said ~~record~~ ID information is added to the document ~~by~~ for relating said ~~ID~~ access controlling information to the document.
9. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 4, wherein said access controlling information further includes a valid term ~~in~~ during which the access is limited.
10. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 3, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, ~~includes~~ including ID information for identifying ~~specifying~~ said record, and said ~~record~~ ID information is added to the document ~~by~~ for relating said ~~ID~~ access controlling information to the document.

11. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 3, wherein said access controlling information further includes a valid term ~~in~~ during which the access is limited.

12. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 3, wherein said access controlling information further includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.

13. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, ~~includes~~ including ID information for identifying ~~specifying~~ said record, and said ~~record~~ ID information is added to the document ~~by~~ for relating said ~~ID~~ access controlling information to the document.

14. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein said access controlling information further includes a valid term ~~in~~ during which the access is limited.

15. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein said access controlling information further includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.

16. (Currently Amended) A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein it is defined whether or not said ~~the~~ document ~~to be registered~~ includes said specific ~~data~~ character string at ~~any~~ one of a time when said document is registered, a time when said access controlling information is registered, ~~time when said access controlling information is registered,~~ and a time when the access to said document is ~~request~~ requested.